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# THE VOICE OF WARNING.

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PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF  
HON. WILLIS GREEN,

*Chairman of the Executive Committee of Whig Members of Congress, at Washington.*

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## TO THE INDEPENDENT VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

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It has been truly said, fellow-citizens, that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty;" and never before, in the history of our country, did that noble sentiment so eloquently appeal to us to heed its warning voice. The liberties of our country have been invaded from without and within—from abroad and at home. The enemies of republican freedom, in England and the United States, have leagued together, in order to subjugate and enslave our people—not by war, nor by force of arms, but by bribery and corruption. No, they come not with glittering swords and bristling bayonets—they come with arms more destructive than these—they come with MONEY, and exult in the hope that they can *buy* us, like beef in the shambles, for their uses. Ay, BRITISH GOLD has been sent here to corrupt the ballot-box of freemen, and insure, if possible, the election of JAMES K. POLK to the Presidency.—The Free Trade party in England has rallied to the assistance of the Locofoco leaders, the *only* advocates of Free Trade on this side of the Atlantic; and all their efforts to defeat HENRY CLAY and break down the Protective Policy, are united and identical. A solemn league and covenant have been concluded between the enemies of manufactures in the United States and the aristocracy of England, to effect the repeal of the Tariff of 1842. *Half a million of pounds sterling*—nearly two millions of dollars—have been subscribed for that purpose; and this enormous corruption fund, furnished by British Lords and British manufacturers, is to be expended to promote the triumph of LOCOFOCOISM, and secure the election of a FREE TRADE CONGRESS! "*American manufactures must be smothered in their cradle,*" was the emphatic declaration of Lord Brougham, in Westminster Hall.—With this great end in view, this half million of British gold has been raised; and JAMES K. POLK, the descendant of a Tory, is the chosen instrument of British capitalists "to smother American manufactures." *His leading partisans* in this country are the *acting agents of these British capitalists*, whose money has been sent here to print Free Trade documents and hire Free Trade speakers. Who can doubt, in the face of these facts, that numbers of the Locofoco stump speakers, who are now traversing the country, denouncing HENRY CLAY and the protective policy, are the pensioned hirelings of the British capitalists—fed and clothed out of this British fund?

You should remember, too, fellow-citizens, that this is not the first time that foreigners have attempted to exert a moneyed influence over us. In

the days of the Revolution it was successfully used against our fathers.—BENEDICT ARNOLD was too weak to resist it—and *he* betrayed his country. It touched the itching palms of EZEKIEL POLK, the grandsire of the Presidential candidate of the Locofocos—and *he* took British protection and piloted CORNWALLIS's army through the piney woods of North Carolina. And as England has always shown herself grateful for past favors, is it at all unlikely that gratitude for the services of EZEKIEL POLK has, to some extent, moved her bankers and capitalists to contribute their money without stint to advance the cause of his *grandson* in the present canvass? But be that as it may, one thing is certain—that British gold is now being freely used to *defeat the election of Henry Clay*. That the leaders of the Locofoco party are more hostile to the protection of American industry than to any other principle avowed by the Whigs, is a well settled question—it rests no longer in doubt. They are the deadly foes of American labor; and in this *they share the earnest sympathies of the British capitalists*. The British manufacturers know that the election of HENRY CLAY and a Whig Congress would be the death-blow to all their hopes. They know that the Tariff of 1842 would then be impregnable to their assaults, and that *American* mechanics and *American* laborers would then furnish American citizens with what they use and consume. Their object is to manufacture everything for us, and, as Lord CHATHAM said, not to let us have even so much as “a horse-shoe or a hob-nail,” which does not come from the workshops of England. And they know further, that, in this, they will meet with the active co-operation and assistance of JAMES K. POLK and the leaders of his party. Hence arises the deep interest these British manufacturers have taken in our elections, and their anxiety to see him President of the nation. He is the fast friend of their interests, and to secure his friendly offices as President, they will *very cheerfully spend two or three millions of dollars* to help him on his way. It is, in every respect, a regular business transaction, planned by DUFF GREEN with the Cobden Free Trade League, whilst in London, and to be consummated by JOHN C. CALHOUN, through his follower, JAMES K. POLK, for whose fealty McDUFFIE, and PICKENS, and RHETT, are pledged to the disunionists in South Carolina. Nor will the British manufacturers lose anything by this profuse expenditure of money to control our elections. On the contrary, it will prove a profitable investment; for if they can by this means elect JAMES K. POLK, he will *repay them* with interest compounded. But how is this to be done? we may be asked. Not by taking the money *directly* from the public treasury, it is true; but by *destroying the protective policy—by encouraging the importation of British manufactures—and by giving to the English manufacturers the monopoly of the American market!*

Such are the leading features in the democracy of JAMES K. POLK, the Presidential candidate of American Free Traders, backed and sustained by the gold of British manufacturers and British capitalists! Therefore it is that we are enabled to copy the following paragraph:

From the London Times.

“A subscription was recently opened to raise funds to circulate Free Trade Tracts in foreign countries. ABOUT FOUR HUNDRED AND FORTY THOUSAND POUNDS WERE SUBSCRIBED. Some of these tracts are to be printed in New York, FOR CIRCULATION IN THE UNITED STATES.”

These subscriptions, it appears, were procured in different parts of England. Manchester, one of the greatest manufacturing towns, has subscribed

£20,000, nearly \$100,000!! A late Manchester paper says of a meeting there :

" Mr. Murray read the following list already received, the announcement of the respective sums being received with loud and hearty cheering by the audience :

The Hon. the Lord Provost	£100	J. & A. Anderson	£50
A. & J. Denison, George Square	200	William Gemmell	40
Charles Tennant & Co.	200	Robert Dalgish	40
William Dixon	200	John Whitehead	30
Samuel Higginbotham	200	George Smith	30
Dunlop, Williams, & Co.	200	John Ker	25
Buchanan, Hamilton, & Co.	100	James Oswald	25
A friend	60	W. G. Mitchell	21
Neal Thompson	50	A. & D. J. Banatine	21
James Scott	50	John Young	21
Alexander Graham	50	Robert Stewart	20
D. McPhail & Co.	50	Andrew Mitchell	20
William Stirling & Sons	50	Alexander McGregor	20
S. D. & Thomas Brown	50	&c. &c."	

There can be no doubt that this money is sent to the United States to be used in favor of the election of a President and Congress pledged to repeal the Whig Tariff Act of 1842. There is no other purpose for which such large sums can be needed. It certainly is not wanted to influence the people of England, for they are already clamorous for "Free Trade and low duties," and to spend money to strengthen them in the faith, would, indeed, be ridiculous excess. We are not, however, left to speculation and doubt on this point, for the London Times tells us, in so many words, that a fund of £440,000 has been raised to "CIRCULATE FREE TRADE TRACTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, SOME OF WHICH ARE TO BE PRINTED IN NEW YORK, FOR CIRCULATION IN THE UNITED STATES." Nor should we be surprised at this movement. It is very natural that the aristocracy of England should seek to operate upon the legislation of this country by the liberal distribution of money and bribes. England knows full well that it is the only avenue to success. We have twice beaten her in vigorous war, upon the land and the ocean, and she remembers to her sorrow, the fields of Yorktown and of New Orleans. It is not at all singular, therefore, that she goes to work insidiously, nor that, when she finds traitors here *who will do her bidding, if paid for it*, she should forward them *gold*, as the price of their treachery. She has found in the Locofoco leaders willing instruments for her service, and she pays them in advance, because **THE MONEY IS NECESSARY TO GIVE THEM THE POWER TO DO WHAT SHE HAS BOUGHT AND PAID THEM TO DO.**

Now what say you, independent voters of the Union, to this interference of a foreign power with the freedom of your elections? Are you disqualified to decide upon the merits of HENRY CLAY and JAMES K. POLK, that BRITISH GOLD must be brought in to *help* your understandings? Will you tamely submit to this *British interference*—this use of *British gold to bribe American citizens to vote for James K. Polk*? Will you not, as your fathers did of old, resist this British influence and British gold? Will you not rally to the rescue of your country, and prove to the world that you are still unseduced and unterrified; and that like the incorruptible Reed of Revolutionary memory, "Great Britain is not rich enough to buy you?"

We find, in connection with this corruption fund, that the English papers

are strong in approbation of JAMES K. POLK and his anti-protective principles. The London Economist, in a long tirade against the Tariff of 1842, says :

"The consequence of the present United States' Tariff is to prevent the people of that country having cotton and woollen goods, paper, cutlery, types, machines, &c. &c. as cheap as they might, and to PREVENT THE MANUFACTURERS OF ALL THESE ARTICLES IN THIS COUNTRY FROM OBTAINING SO MANY ADDITIONAL, AND, WE SHOULD HOPE, PROFITABLE CUSTOMERS."

It is easy to show that JAMES K. POLK is side by side with the British press on this question, and we shall therefore, to prevent misunderstanding, give his opinions also. In his organ, the Nashville Union, of June 26, 1843, we find an address of Mr. POLK to the people of Tennessee, from which we make the following extracts :

From the Nashville Union, of June 26, 1843.

EXTRACTS FROM GOV. POLK'S LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF TENNESSEE.

"Upon the subject of the Tariff, I have but little to add to what I have heretofore often declared to the public. All who have observed my course, know that *I have at all times been opposed to the protective policy.*' I am for laying such moderate duties on imports as will raise revenue enough, when added to the income from the sale of lands and other incidental sources, to defray the expenses of Government economically administered. I AM IN FAVOR OF A TARIFF FOR REVENUE, AND OPPOSED TO A TARIFF FOR PROTECTION. I was a member of Congress during the period that this subject excited greatest interest. I was opposed to the protective Tariff of 1828, and voted against it. I voted for the act of 1832, because it reduced the Tariff of 1828 to lower rates. That made some reduction, though not as much as I desired to have made." \* \* \* "*I AM OPPOSED TO THE ACT OF 1842, not regarding it to be a revenue Tariff, but in many of its provisions HIGHLY PROTECTIVE AND OPPRESSIVE IN ITS CHARACTER.—I AM IN FAVOR OF THE RESTORATION OF THE COMPROMISE ACT OF 1833.*"

"MAY 17, 1843.

JAMES K. POLK."

These are the views of the candidate our opponents have put up for the Presidency. He "has at all times been opposed to a Tariff for protection," and is opposed to the Tariff of 1842, which he declares to be "*highly protective and oppressive in its character.*" In view of this, it is reduced to a certainty that his election would be the death of the Tariff, and secure to the English manufacturers the fulfilment of their highest hopes. To make this clearer still, let us look for a moment to the declaration of his leading friends in Congress. Mr. THOMAS H. BENTON, in a speech on the Tariff, in the Senate, on the 25th of April, 1844, said :

"The question itself is now on trial before the great areopagus of the people, and must have its solution from that tribunal before we meet again. THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION INVOLVES THE FATE OF THE TARIFF, and to that fate a future Congress will have to conform, be our action now what it may. Now, as in the year 1832, the fate of the high Tariff is staked in the person of its eminent champion—its candidate for the Presidency of the United States. That champion was defeated then, and his system with him; and he may be defeated again."

The defeat of HENRY CLAY, says Mr. BENTON, is the destruction of the Tariff! Tariff men, friends of protection are you prepared for this?

Again : Mr. THOMAS J. HENLEY, a Locofoco member from Indiana, said, about the same time, in the House of Representatives :

"I can tell gentlemen that the present tariff will be reduced so soon as we are in full power. We knew it was no use to pass it in the House now, as we had not the majority in the Senate. Give us a majority there, and see if we do not pass the bill! We will do it, FOR SUCH IS OUR RESOLUTE DETERMINATION!"

Here, then, is the development of their purpose ; the Tariff of 1842 will be repealed so soon as the Locofocos have full power. It cannot be misunderstood, for it is spoken *by authority* in the Halls of Congress.

But we have not done with the English press, which takes the same ground as Mr. POLK, and his friends Messrs. BENTON and HENLEY. The London Atlas says, and we beg the reader to mark its language :

“The election of Mr. Clay must, WE FEAR, be looked upon as, to a considerable extent, the confirmation of the principle of commercial restriction. He has always been the consistent advocate of a PROTECTIVE TARIFF, and the cause of the Whigs has always been identified with that of the New England manufacturers, who aim at acquiring a monopoly of the home market by the aid of prohibitory duties. Nor can we wonder that such is the policy of the most respectable and intelligent statesmen of America, when we consider that by our corn laws we shut the door in the face of any attempt to negotiate a commercial arrangement on the footing of *fair and substantial reciprocity*. We take nothing from the United States *but that which we cannot possibly do without*—their cotton and tobacco—excluding the staple produce of the great agricultural States of the west, by a sliding scale ingeniously framed so as to throw the *maximum* amount of impediment in the way of access to the English market. Is it to be wondered at, then, that they retaliate and meet high duties on American flour by high duties on English manufactures? A liberal commercial policy three years ago would have prevented the passing of the restrictive Tariff of the United States, and would have given a decided ascendancy in that country to Free Trade principles and the Free Trade party. A liberal commercial policy ten years hence, as from present indications would appear to be the probable result, may very possibly fail to recover what previous blunders have cost us. To offer to admit American and German corn in exchange for British manufactures when the manufacturing systems of Prussia, Saxony, and New England have acquired strength and become consolidated, will be very much like what the old saying describes as ‘barring the door after the horse is stolen.’”

And now, fellow-citizens, what have you to say to this? Will you suffer the manufacturers of Manchester, Sheffield, and Leeds to say who shall be our President? Will you permit them to strike down the Tariff of 1842, on the permanency of which depend the prosperity and happiness of your country? Will you remain inactive in the present crisis, and let the Locofocos, tainted and corrupted with British gold, elect JAMES K. POLK to the highest office in the gift of a free people? Will you, the sons and descendants of the gallant freemen who triumphed over British gold and British arms in the war of the Revolution, show yourselves ready to receive the chains that have been forged to bind you? Will *you* thus become the instruments of your own degradation and ruin? These are serious questions, and they address themselves to every man in the nation. The facts are before you, and it is for you to consider them. Gold has been sent here from England to advance the political fortunes of men whose first act would be to repeal the present Tariff. The Locofoco leaders are using that gold unsparingly—they are paying their Free Trade orators, and printing and scattering Free Trade tracts, almost broad cast over the land. The issue is one of fearful and startling import. It is a struggle, not only with those who are against PROTECTION, but with the moneyed power, and the bloated aristocracy of England!

Manufacturers and Farmers! Mechanics and Workingmen! we appeal to you. The result of the Presidential election is of vital importance to you AND YOUR FAMILIES! It is for you to say whether the Tariff shall be REPEALED OR PRESERVED! Let it be repealed, and the country will be flooded with the products of PAUPER LABOR, and you will either be thrown out of employment, or forced to work for low wages; and, it may be, you will not

have bread to put in the mouths of your starving children ! Let it be preserved and your prosperity will be permanent ; and your families comfortable and happy ! Think well upon these things ! Reflect deeply and seriously before you act ! The result of the Presidential election is, we candidly assure you, big with the fate of millions. It involves the fate of the Tariff, and, consequently, that of the people and the country ! If then you would preserve the protective policy, and give steady and adequate protection to every branch of American industry, vote for its champion HENRY CLAY. On the other hand, if neither the interests of the country, nor your own interest, give you any solicitude—if you are willing to see both go headlong to destruction—if, in fine, you are lost to a sense of duty, and unmindful of the rich legacy of republican freedom bequeathed by your fathers, then vote for JAMES K. POLK, to whose support it is now boldly attempted to bribe you with the gold of British Lords and British manufacturers and capitalists ! We have now performed our duty, do ye yours. We have warned you of the danger that threatens your liberties and the peace and security of the Government, and forewarned, be ye forearmed.

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## APPENDIX.

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### JAMES K. POLK'S VOTES, TAKEN FROM THE JOURNALS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

It has been deemed proper to give the votes of JAMES K. POLK on the Tariff, from the Journals of Congress, authenticated in due form of law ; and in this form they are submitted to the people of the United States for their consideration and reflection.

#### THE TARIFF—WOOL AND WOOLLENS.

The bill to amend acts imposing duties on imports—to protect woollen manufactures and wool growers, passed—yeas 106, nays 95. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1826-'7, page 282 ; Feb. 10, 1827.

The amendment imposing on Brussels, Turkey, and Wilton carpets, &c., a duty of 70 cents per square yard ; on Venitian and ingrain carpets, &c., 40 cents per square yard ; on all other kinds of carpets, &c., of wool, flax, hemp, or cotton, &c., 32 cents per square yard, was agreed to—yeas 125, nays 66. James K. Polk voting NAY.

The amendment, "On woollen blankets, 40 per cent. ad valorem," was rejected—yeas 78, nays 105. James K. Polk voting NAY.

\* The amendment, "On worsted stuff goods and bombazines, 35 per cent. ad valorem," was rejected—yeas 73, nays 107. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal H. of R. 1827-'28, pages 487, 489, 491 ; April 7th, 1828.

The Tariff bill of 1828 passed—yeas 105, nays 94. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal H. of R. 1827-'28, page 607 ; April 22d, 1828.

The amendment to reduce the duty on wool and woollens rejected—yeas 68, nays 120. James K. Polk voting YEA—Journal of H. of R. 1829-'30, page 626 ; May 11th, 1830.

A question of consideration of motion to reduce the duties on iron, wool,

woollens, and cotton bagging, decided in the negative—yeas 66, nays 114. James K. Polk voting YEA—Journal of H. of R. 1830-'31, page 59; Dec. 14, 1830.

The amendment of 40 per cent. ad valorem duty on unmanufactured wool was agreed to—yeas 113, nays 75. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1831-'32, page 922; June 22d, 1832.

The amendment to raise duty on woollen yarn to 50 per cent. ad valorem was agreed to—yeas 110, nays 79. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1831-'32, page 910; June 22d, 1832.

The amendment to raise the duty on mits, gloves, bindings, blankets, hosiery and carpets, &c., except Brussels and Venitian carpets, from 25 per cent. ad valorem to 30 per cent. ad valorem, was rejected—yeas 90, nays 94. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1831-'32, page 991; June 27, 1832.

The amendment imposing on flannels and baizes a specific duty of 16 cents per square yard, was agreed to—yeas 93, nays 91. James K. Polk voting NAY. Journal of H. of R. 1831-'32, page 1009; June 27, 1832.

The amendment to raise the duty on Brussels carpet to 63 cents per square yard, was agreed to—yeas 98, nays 92. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1831-'32, page 1006; June 27, 1832.

The amendment of the Senate, increasing the duty on Merino shawls, and other manufactures of wool, to 57 per cent. ad valorem, was rejected—yeas 84, nays 91. James K. Polk voting NAY. Journal of H. of R. 1831-'32, page 1123; July 10, 1832.

The amendment imposing on cloths, kerseymeres, merino shawls, and other woollen manufactures, a duty of \$35 for every \$100 in value thereof until March 2d, 1835, then a duty of \$30 until March 2d, 1836, and thereafter a duty of \$25, was agreed to—yeas 106, nays 73. James K. Polk voting NAY. Journal of H. of R. 1832-'33, page 356; February 18th, 1833.

#### IRON, COTTON, HEMP, ETC.

The amendment imposing on cotton bagging a duty of 4½ cents per square yard until June 30th, 1829, and thereafter a duty of 5½ cents per square yard, was agreed to—yeas 112, nays 77. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal H. of R. 1827-'28, page 496; April 7th, 1828.

The amendment on other manufactures of hemp and flax, a duty of 30 per cent. until June 30th, 1829—and thereafter an annual increase of 5 per cent. until the whole ad valorem duty shall amount to 40 per cent.—was rejected—yeas 48, nays 143, James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1827-'28, page 494; April 7th, 1828.

The amendment on bar and bolt iron, made wholly or in part by rolling, a duty of \$37 per ton, was agreed to—yeas 117, nays 71. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1827-'28, page 515; April 9th, 1828.

The amendment to reduce the duty on iron, hemp, flax, cotton bagging, molasses, indigo and cotton goods, was rejected—yeas 70, nays 117. James K. Polk voting YEA—Journal of H. of R. 1829-'30, page 627; May 11th, 1830.

#### HATS, SADDLES, BOOTS, ETC.

The amendment imposing on cabinet wares, hats and caps, of fur, leather, or wool, whips, bridles, saddles, and all manufactures of leather

not otherwise specified, carriages and parts of carriages, and blank books, a duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem; on boots and shoes \$1 50 cents per pair, was agreed to—yeas 105, nays 78. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1831-'32, page 927; June 22d, 1832.

#### SUGAR, COFFEE, AND TEA.

The House refused to consider a resolution repealing the duty on sugar—yeas 83, nays 98. James K. Polk voting YEA—Journal of H. of R. 1830-'31, page 49; December 13th, 1830.

The amendment to strike out the duty on coffee was agreed to—yeas 117, nays 57. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1832-'33, page 390; February 21st, 1833.

The amendment to strike out the duty on teas was agreed to—yeas 108, nays 62. James K. Polk voting NAY—Journal of H. of R. 1832-'33, page 392; February 21st, 1833.

### CERTIFICATE OF THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,  
*County of Washington,*

} to wit:

Be it known, that on this, the 16th of September, A. D. 1844, I, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace and Notary Public, in and for the county aforesaid, having examined the Journals of the House of Representatives in the Library of said House of Representatives, and compared therewith the foregoing votes of JAMES K. POLK on questions on the the Tariff.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY said votes are correctly copied and transcribed from said journals.

[SEAL.] Given under my hand and official seal, the day and year above written.

N. CALLAN, Jr.,  
*Notary Public and Justice of the Peace.*

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *County of Washington, sct:*

I, William Brent, Clerk of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, for the County of Washington, do hereby certify that Nicholas Callan, jr., esq., who has given the above certificate, and thereto subscribed his name, and affixed his notarial seal, was at the time of so doing a justice of the peace and notary public in and for the county aforesaid, duly commissioned and sworn.

[SEAL.]

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereto subscribed my name, and affixed the public seal of said court for the county aforesaid, this 17th September, 1844.

WM. BRENT, *Clerk.*

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